

**GALLATIN LOCAL WATER QUALITY DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2009**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathy Gallagher
Dave Hebner
Kaaren Jacobsen
Sherwin Leep
Gretchen Rupp
Steve White

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

El Bennet (Excused)
City of Bozeman At-Large (Vacant)

GLWQD STAFF PRESENT:

Alan English, Manager
Tammy Crone, Water Quality Specialist
Baker Lyon, Water Quality Specialist

BOARD LIAISONS PRESENT:

Sean O'Callaghan, Planning Dept.
Tim Roark, Environmental Health
CB Dormire, Planning Board

PUBLIC AND GUESTS:

Charlie Preston-Townsend (MSU Student)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Sherwin Leep called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2009 MINUTES

No official minutes were taken at the October 8, 2009 meeting because a quorum was not present. A draft of the September 3, 2009 minutes was reviewed by the Board.

Gretchen Rupp made a motion to approve the September 3, 2009 minutes as presented. Steve White seconded. Kathy Gallagher abstained from voting since she was not present at the September meeting. The motion passed as follows:

ROLL CALL:

Sherwin Leep – For	Gretchen Rupp – For
Dave Hebner – For	Steve White– For
Kathy Gallagher – Abstain	Mark Criner – For
Kaaren Jacobsen – For	Ell Bennett – Absent
	City Of Bozeman At-Large (Vacant)

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Charlie Preston-Townsend, MSU Sociology Student, distributed a 5-minute questionnaire regarding representation and membership in the Board. The members completed the survey and returned it to the student.

*A deviation from the noticed agenda schedule was made to accommodate a board member's need to depart prematurely.

IV. DISCUSSION AND DECISION ON PURCHASE OF WATER LEVEL PROBES

The Manager explained the probes, their use, deployment and pricing. Currently 21 probes are in use in a 52-well network. The probes record water level and water temperature on a programmed schedule, typically once every 24 hours. The recorded data is corroborated by hand measurements and downloaded quarterly.

A handout was provided to Board members showing price quotes from four equipment distributors. The Manager requested approval to spend up to \$2,600 to purchase probes, contingent on making sure the budget was sound.

Kathy Gallagher made a motion to approve the purchase of the probes for up to \$2,600. Steve White seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

ROLL CALL:	Sherwin Leep – For	Gretchen Rupp – For
	Dave Hebner – For	Steve White– For
	Kathy Gallagher – For	Mark Criner – For
	Kaaren Jacobsen – For	Ell Bennett – Absent
		City Of Bozeman At-Large (Vacant)

V. DISCUSSION/ DECISION ON PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT SAMPLING PUMP

The Manager explained that the current monitoring well sampling pump is not working. Attempts to troubleshoot the problem failed and it may have been damaged due to overheating. The pump need is imminent to complete the VOC sampling project for DEQ. This project consists of sampling all of the network wells for VOC contaminants. Staff looked into the option of purchasing an alternative pumping system and determined the costs would be at least \$2,500, including purchasing new discharge tubing. Quotes for a replacement pump for the pumping system were obtained from four vendors. Including necessary accessories, and a heat shield, a replacement pump can be purchased for around \$1,500.

The Manager requested approval to purchase a replacement pump for a cost of up to \$1,500.

Steve White made a motion to approve the purchase of the replacement pump for up to 1,500. Kathy Gallagher seconded the motion. The Manager then requested the motion be amended to allow up to \$1,600 in case shipping costs were excessive. The motion was amended to allow up to \$1,600 for purchase of the replacement pump. The motion passed as follows:

ROLL CALL:	Sherwin Leep – For	Gretchen Rupp – For
	Dave Hebner – For	Steve White– For
	Kathy Gallagher – For	Mark Criner – For
	Kaaren Jacobsen – For	Ell Bennett – Absent
		City Of Bozeman At-Large (Vacant)

VI. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

The Manager noted that the future Board Chair will most likely preside over at least two public hearings on the potential boundary expansion. Kathy Gallagher nominated current Chair Sherwin Leep. Steve White seconded the nomination. Sherwin Leep was approved unanimously for another term as Chair.

Steve White nominated Gretchen Rupp to continue as Vice-Chair, there were no other nominations. Gretchen was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

Kathy Gallagher nominated Steve White to continue as Secretary. The Manager noted that it has been custom to have the County Commission Board representative appointed to this position so that a signature if needed was easy to obtain.

VII. DISCUSSION OF EXPANSION OF DISTRICT BOUNDARY

Staff have pursued expansion and laid foundational work for the process. Legal counsel by James Greenbaum has advised Manager on process. Postcard public notice will cost approximately \$3,000, handled by Clerk and Recorder. Legal description and GIS mapping of expansion is complete. Clerk and Recorder will address and mail postcards with information from Treasurer. Treasurer and C&R have pre-existing commitments necessitating the LWQD expansion be delayed until late December or January, 2010. The Manager will research if timing will impact when or if district fee will actually appear on real property bill in May, 2010. Budget may not be amended until FY2011. Ms. Gallagher expressed concern about the timing of the district expansion and associated fee given current public discontent over increased property tax valuations.

At present, the boundary expansion plan is for a single boundary change that would include areas to the north, west, and south of the current boundary. Anticipated expenses include post card printing, purchase of labels, postage, and staff time. The idea of doing three separate boundary changes was discussed. This would allow an area with a high level of protest to be dropped, but still allow the other areas to be incorporated. The Manager agreed to look into this option and pursue it if feasible.

Sherwin Leep requested the Manager investigate a cutoff date to be included in next tax bill. C.B. Dormire expressed concern that the public notice be published on multiple occasions to allow increased public knowledge. Law requires notice on two occasions, in one newspaper. Interest was expressed in publishing the information in Belgrade News and Lone Peak Lookout, in addition to the Bozeman Chronicle. The Manager explained that public outreach and meeting will occur concurrently with public notice and a press release.

VIII. STAFF UPDATE:

The Manager distributed Staff Update to the Board and discussed the last month's daily business.

IX. IDAHO POLE SUPERFUND UPDATE

The Manager reported that EPA has hired a contractor and started work on a Five Year Review for the site. The review is expected to be completed early in 2010. The contractor will also be completing a remediation system evaluation to assess how the current remediation program is working. This report will be completed in January 2010. The Manager noted that problems with keeping the public and local officials informed about the remedial efforts were discussed with EPA and others. Overall, the ground water contamination plume appears to be shrinking due to source removal and ground water flushing.

Mr. O'Callaghan relayed Planning Department involvement at the site, which has similarly been minimal due to ineffective communication. The board expressed strong interest in a site visit in conjunction with Commissioners and the Board of Health.

*Kathy Gallagher excused herself at 10:00.

*Tim Roark excused himself at 10:11.

X. CONTINUATION OF STAFF UPDATE

The Manager continued staff update after extensive discussion of Idaho Pole.

*Sean O'Callaghan excused himself at 10:14.

*Gretchen Rupp excused herself at 10:16.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XII. AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

Approval of November 2009 Meeting Minutes

Continued discussion of District Boundary Expansion

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Next meeting to be held December 3, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherwin Leep, Chair

Date

Steve White, Secretary

Date

Alan English, District Manager

Date